

Appl. No. 10/688,118
Atty. Docket No. 9066M2
Preliminary Amdt. dated June 16, 2006
Customer No. 27752

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1-20. (cancelled)
21. (new) A process for preparing a softening composition suitable for atomizing without excessive aerosolization which comprises:
- preparing a softening composition wherein said softening composition comprises an oil-in-water emulsion;
 - said oil-in-water emulsion comprising a continuous aqueous phase and a discontinuous oil phase;
 - preparing a rheology modifying composition wherein said rheology modifying composition comprises a water-in-oil emulsion;
 - said water-in-oil emulsion comprising a high molecular weight polymer in a discontinuous aqueous phase and a continuous oil or organic solvent phase;
 - adding said rheology modifying composition to said softening composition;
 - wherein said water-in-oil emulsion is inverted in said oil-in-water emulsion and releases the polymer into the continuous aqueous phase of said oil-in-water emulsion without inverting or destabilizing the oil-in-water emulsion.
22. (new) The process of claim 21 wherein said softening composition comprises less than about 45% by weight of said continuous aqueous phase.
23. (new) The process of claim 21 wherein said softening composition comprises from about 0.0005% to about 0.5% by weight of said high molecular weight polymer.
24. (new) The process of claim 21 wherein said softening composition is applied to a tissue web.
25. (new) The process of claim 24 wherein said softening composition is applied to the tissue web at levels from about 0.1% and about 10% of the total weight of the tissue web.

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26. (new) The process of Claim 24 wherein said softening composition is deposited as uniform, discrete surface deposits, spaced apart at a frequency between about 5 areas per lineal inch to about 100 areas per lineal inch.
27. (new) A process for making a sprayable softening composition which comprises:
preparing a softening composition;
said softening composition comprising an oil-in-water emulsion;
said oil-in-water emulsion comprising:
a quaternary ammonium softening active ingredient;
an electrolyte; and
a vehicle in which said softening active ingredient is dispersed;
preparing a rheology modifying composition;
said rheology modifying composition comprising a water-in-oil emulsion;
said water-in-oil emulsion comprising:
from about 20% to about 40% by weight of a premix of a high molecular weight polymer;
from about 40% to about 50% water; and
from about 20% to about 40% of an oil or organic solvent;
adding said rheology modifying composition to said softening composition;
wherein said water-in-oil emulsion is inverted in said oil-in-water emulsion and releases the polymer into the continuous aqueous phase of said oil-in-water emulsion without inverting or destabilizing the oil-in-water emulsion.
28. (new) The process of Claim 27 wherein said polymer is a cationic polymer.
29. (new) The process of Claim 27 wherein said softening composition is sprayed onto the surface of a tissue web.
30. (new) A process for making a sprayable softening composition which comprises:
preparing a softening composition;
said softening composition comprising:
from about 10% to about 60% by weight of the composition of a quaternary ammonium softening active ingredient;
an electrolyte; and an aqueous vehicle in which said softening active ingredient is dispersed;
preparing a rheology modifying composition;

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said rheology modifying composition comprising:
 the high molecular weight polymer in a discontinuous aqueous phase, and
 a continuous oil or organic solvent phase;
 adding said rheology modifying composition to said softening composition.

31. (new) The process of Claim 30 wherein said softening composition is sprayed onto the surface of a tissue web.
32. (new) The process of claim 31 wherein said softening composition is deposited as uniform, discrete surface deposits, spaced apart at a frequency between about 5 areas per lineal inch to about 100 areas per lineal inch.
33. (new) The process of claim 30 wherein said softening active ingredient is selected from the group consisting of quaternary compounds, mono-, di-, and tri-ester quaternary ammonium compounds, and mixtures thereof.
34. (new) The process of claim 33 wherein said softening active ingredient is a mono-, di-, or tri-ester quaternary ammonium compound having the formula:

$$(R_1)_{4-m} - N^+ - [(CH_2)_n - Y - R_3]_m X^-$$
 wherein Y is -O-(O)C-, or -C(O)-O-, or -NH-C(O)-, or -C(O)-NH-;
 m is 1 to 3; n is 0 to 4; each R₁ is a C₁-C₆ alkyl or alkenyl group, hydroxyalkyl group, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl group, alkoxyated group, benzyl group, or mixtures thereof;
 each R₃ is a C₁₃-C₂₁ alkyl or alkenyl group, hydroxyalkyl group, hydrocarbyl or substituted hydrocarbyl group, alkoxyated group, benzyl group, or mixtures thereof; and X⁻ is any softener-compatible anion.
35. (new) The process of Claim 34 wherein m is 3, n is 2, R₁ is methyl, R₃ is C₁₅-C₁₇ alkyl or alkenyl, and Y is -O-(O)C-, or -C(O)-O-.
36. (new) The process of Claim 30 wherein said softening composition further comprises from about 2% to about 75% by weight of a plasticizer.
37. (new) The process of Claim 30 wherein said electrolyte comprises up to about 15% by weight of the composition.

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38. (new) The process of Claim 30 wherein said softening composition further comprises from about 1% to about 20% by weight of a bilayer disrupter.